

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-34 (cancelled).

35 (currently amended). A method of treating a patient for memory loss associated with aging comprising administering to that patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one of D- β -hydroxybutyric acid, acetoacetate, or a metabolic precursor or physiologically acceptable salt of D- β -hydroxybutyric acid or acetoacetate, such as to elevate the patient's blood levels of ketone bodies, defined as the sum total of D- β -hydroxybutyric acid and acetoacetate, to a therapeutic level effective to treat the disorder, wherein the patient's blood level is elevated to from 0.3mM to 20mM, wherein the metabolic precursor is selected from the group consisting of:

~~(i)~~ medium chain length triglycerides,

~~(ii)~~ (i) oligomers of D- β -hydroxybutyric acid,

~~(iii)~~ (ii) esters of D- β -hydroxybutyric acid or its oligomers with monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols or with acetoacetate,

~~(iv)~~ (iii) esters of acetoacetate with monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols,

wherein the monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols in (ii) and (iii) and ~~(iv)~~ are selected from the group C1-C4 alkyl alcohols, (R)-1,3-butandiol and glycerol.

36-37 (canceled).

38 (previously presented). A method as claimed in Claim 35 wherein the memory loss associated with ageing is caused by Alzheimer's disease or an inability to metabolise glucose.

39 (canceled).